

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending.

The Examiner allows claim 6. The Examiner rejects claims 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et alii (U.S. Pat. No. 6,287,955) in view of Takeishi (U.S. Pat. No. 6,376,048) and Seta et alii (U.S. Pat. No. 6,352,931). The Examiner rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takase et alii (U.S. Pat. No. 6,051,508) in view of Wang and Seta. The Examiner rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takase in view of Wang, Seta, and Takeishi.

The Applicants amend claims 2-5 and cancel claims 1 and 7-15 without prejudice.

The Applicants add no new matter and request reconsideration.

Claims Allowed

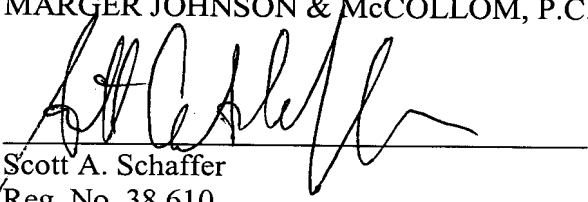
The Applicants thank Examiner Erdem for allowing claim 6. Claims 2-5 are amended to depend from claim 6 thereby obviating the rejection of these claims under § 103(a).

Conclusion

The Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of all claims as amended. The Applicants encourage the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,
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